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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/476,686	12/30/1999	GEOFFREY B. RHOADS	60081	8157

23735 7590 10/22/2003

DIGIMARC CORPORATION
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SUITE 100
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EXAMINER

SONG, HOSUK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2131	

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/476,686	RHOADS ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Hosuk Song	2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 December 1999.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18,23-43 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-18 and 23-43 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2,4,7.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claim 1,9,11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Indeck et al.(US 5,740,244).

Claims 1,9: Indeck patent discloses a transducer to receive ambient audio and to output electrical signals corresponding in (col.9,lines 57-60 and col.10,lines 8-15). Indeck disclose a watermark detector coupled to the transducer for producing payload information in (col.6,lines 14-32). Indeck disclose a memory storing user identification information in (col.7,lines 38-40). Indeck disclose an interface that receives at least some of both the payload information and the user identification information for transmission to a relay station in (col.5,lines 21-34).

Claim 11: Indeck patent discloses a transducer to receive ambient audio and to output electrical signals corresponding in (col.9,lines 57-60 and col.10,lines 8-15). Indeck disclose a watermark detector coupled to the transducer for producing payload information in (col.6,lines 14-32). Indeck disclose a memory storing user identification information in (col.7,lines 38-40). Indeck disclose an interface that receives at least some of both the payload information and the user identification information for transmission to a relay station in (col.5,lines 21-34).

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2. Claims 10,27-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bottum(US 6,014,569).

Claim 10: Bottum patent discloses generating a noise like signal having a plural bit location identifier encoded therein, and airing the signal through at least one loud speaker in an environment, the aired signal being generally indiscernible by human listeners present in the environment in (col.3,lines 21-61).

Claim 27: Bottum patent discloses receiving ambient music using a microphone in a user device in (fig.2 and col.3,lines 21-23,64-65). Bottum discloses transferring electronic signals corresponding to the received ambient music to a processor and using an identifier to obtain information from a database the information relating to the music in (col.3,lines 54-67;col.6,lines 27-37). Bottum discloses presenting at least textual information to a user about the ambient music, presented information being based at least in part on information obtained from the database in (col.6,lines 27-37).

Claims 28-31: Bottum discloses textual information presented to the user specifies the artist and title of the ambient music in (col.4,lines 64-65;col.5,lines 10-15).

Claim 32: Bottum discloses textual information identifies packaged media on which the music is available in (col.6,lines 4-11).

Claim 33: Bottum discloses user device includes a display, and the textual information is presented to the user on display in (col.4,lines 64-67;col.5,lines1-8).

Claim 34: Bottum discloses triggered by a user action including pressing a button on the user device in (col.5,lines 4-10).

Claim 35: Bottum discloses triggered by a voice command of the user,acted upon by a voice recognition feature of the user device in (col.4,lines 7-10).

Claim 36: Bottum discloses device is portable sized to carry in a user's pocket in (col.4,lines 17-19 and fig.1,2).

Claim 37: Bottum discloses transmitting data from the user device to a remote computer, data including user/device data relating to at least one of the following: user name, audio delivery information, user age,user gender,model of user device,device UID, or user UID;wherein the text presented to the user is dependent, at least in part on transmitted user/device data in (col.3,lines 54-58;col.4,lines 64-65;col.6,lines 4-11).

Claim 38: Bottum discloses user device has wireless transmit and receive capabilities in (fig.1 and col.4,lines 17-24).

Claim 39-40: Bottum discloses wireless device has a store-and-forward capability,wherein ambient music can be stored and later identified if wireless service is not available at the time when the ambient music is received by microphone in (col.4,lines 27-34,34-48).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-4,12-14,23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Indeck et al.(US 5,740,244) in view of Smith et al.(US 5,923,327).

Claims 2,12: Indeck discloses all the limitation above. Indeck does not discloses in which the interface is a wireless interface. Smith discloses a device including a transducer where interface is a wireless interface in (fig.2 and 4). It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to employ a wireless capability as taught in Smith with transducer device disclosed in Indeck in order for user to roam freely where user does not have to be physically connected to the system as well as having the capability of storing and forwarding electric signals, representative of voice,video,audio data or other forms of information to or from user in a wireless form who is mobile, in an efficient and convenient manner.

Claims 3-4,13-14,23-26: Indeck does not specifically discloses alphanumeric display with a keypad. Smith patent discloses device with alphanumeric display including a keypad in (fig.4). It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include alphanumeric display with a key pad disclosed in Smith with a device taught in Indeck in order for user to conveniently send and receive data without having to rely on a second device to perform data transaction where it can be inconvenient and time consuming for the users. Further, alphanumeric display with a keypad provides user more freedom as to how data should be processed and handled at users discretion.

4. Claims 5-8,15-18,41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Bottum (US 6,014,569).

Claim 5: Bottum discloses receiving audio at a device in (col.2,lines 25-28). Bottum discloses discerning from the audio a plural bit audio ID in (col.6,lines 27-41). Bottum discloses obtaining a user ID from a memory in the device in (fig.3#360). Bottum does not specifically disclose transmitting at least portions of both the audio and the user ID to a location remote from device. It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the invention of Bottum to transmit portion of audio and user ID so that if the data is compromised by the hackers, hackers is able to gain only the portion of the data rather than full data thus security is greatly enhanced by transmitting only a portion of the data.

Claim 6: Bottum discloses audio ID comprises a Digital Object Identifier in (col.3,lines 59-61).

Claim 7: Bottum does not specifically disclose receiving the audio by a microphone. Official notice is taken that receiving the audio by a microphone is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to receive the audio by a microphone in order to capture the external audio information into the system.

Claim 8: Bottum discloses discerning at least two Ids from the audio, one being the audio ID (col.2,lines 22-23), and another being an ID corresponding to an environment in which the device is located in (col.1,lines 25-30 and col.3,lines 54-59).

Claim 15: Bottum discloses receiving audio at a device in (col.2,lines 25-28). Bottum discloses discerning from the audio a plural bit audio ID in (col.6,lines 27-41). Bottum discloses obtaining a user ID from a memory in the device in (fig.3#360). Bottum does not specifically disclose transmitting at least portions of both the audio and the user ID to a location remote from device. It would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the invention of Bottum to transmit portion of audio and user ID

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so that if the data is compromised by the hackers, hackers is able to gain only the portion of the data rather than full data thus security is greatly enhanced by transmitting only a portion of the data.

Claim 16: Bottum discloses audio ID comprises a Digital Object Identifier in (col.3,lines 59-61).

Claim 17: Bottum does not specifically disclose receiving the audio by a microphone. Official notice is taken that receiving the audio by a microphone is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to receive the audio by a microphone in order to capture the external audio information into the system.

Claim 18: Bottum discloses discerning at least two Ids from the audio, one being the audio ID (col.2,lines 22-23), and another being an ID corresponding to an environment in which the device is located in (col.1,lines 25-30 and col.3,lines 54-59).

Claims 41- 43: Bottum does not specifically discloses act of processing the transferred electronic signals to generate the identifier and is performed in the user device and processing composing decoding a watermark. Examiner takes Official notice that encoding and watermarking is well known in the art. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use watermarking method in order to protect copyright material or sensitive data from the intruders. Watermarking enhances data integrity and offers copy protection.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Smith et al.(5,923,327) discloses transducer device to facilitate audio communication.
- b. Neubauer et al.(US 6,584,138) discloses encoding method of audio signals.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hosuk Song whose telephone number is 703-305-0042. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri from 6:00 am-4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Ayaz S

HSS

Frantz B. Jean

FRANTZ B. JEAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER